

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 2290 - HB 2670

February 22, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (013973): Prohibits a public institution of higher education (institution) from conducting any mandatory training of students or employees if the training includes one or more divisive concepts and prohibits discrimination if the students or employees assent to one or more divisive concept. Prohibits the institutions from requiring students or employees to reveal or endorse a specific ideology or political viewpoint to be eligible for hiring, tenure, promotion, or graduation. Prohibits the institutions from using state-appropriated funds to incentivize, beyond payment of regular salary or other regular compensation, a faculty member to incorporate one or more divisive concepts into academic formula.

Requires an institution to investigate any complaint of a violation within 10 days from the institution's receipt of the complaint. Authorizes particular actions that the institution can take if an employee is found to be in violation of this act.

Requires each institution to report the aggregate number of complaints, the investigative findings, and the actions taken for a violation of this section for the previous calendar year to the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives by January 1, 2023 of each year.

Requires each institution to conduct a biennial survey though July 1, 2028, of the institution's students and employees that assesses the campus climate with regard to diversity and campus freedom of speech. Requires the institution to publish the survey results on the institutions website.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the University of Tennessee System, the locally governed institutions, and the Tennessee Board of Regents, each institution can conduct and publish the biennial survey within existing resources.
- Each of the institutions can investigate, report, update any policies and comply with the proposed legislation without a significant impact to state or local government.

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- There will not be a significant increase in cases in the court system. Any fiscal impact will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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